

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAY 24 2005

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

PATENT
324-137IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Appeal of : Confirmation No. 6471
 Jean-Pierre MARTINIÈRE : Art Unit: 2154
 Serial No.: 09/719,370 : Examiner: Ashokkumar B. PATEL
 Filed: December 11, 2000 :
 For: INTERRELATED FUNCTIONING BETWEEN EQUIPMENT ITEMS THROUGH
 HYPERTEXT HOME PAGE

Filed: May 24, 2005
 05/25/2005 BONNER 00000010 09719370
BRIEF ON APPEAL 01 FC:1402

500.00 OP

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Notice of Appeal filed March 24, 2005, in connection with the above-identified application on appeal, herewith is Appellant's Brief on Appeal. Authorization for payment of the \$500 statutory fee is attached.

To the extent necessary, Appellant hereby requests any required extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any required fees not otherwise provided for to Deposit Account No. 07-1337.

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ON THE DATE SHOWN BELOW

Tracy A. Luke

TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATION

Tracy A. Luke 5/24/05

SIGNATURE

DATE

5/24/05

FACSIMILE NUMBER

7031872-9300

Serial No. 09/719,370

Docket No. 324-137

Page - 2 -

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| I. | Real Party in Interest | 3 |
| II. | Related Appeals and Interferences | 3 |
| III. | Status of Claims | 3 |
| IV. | Status of Amendments | 4 |
| V. | Summary of Claimed Subject Matter | 4 |
| VI. | Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal ... | 8 |
| VII. | Argument | 8 |
| | A. Humbleman..... | 9 |
| | B. Humbleman et al. does not anticipate because it does not disclose home page downloading as claims 12 and 24 require..... | 11 |
| | C. Humbleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claims 14 and 26..... | 12 |
| | D. Humbleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 17..... | 13 |
| | E. Humbleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 18..... | 13 |
| | F. Humbleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 19..... | 14 |
| | G. Humbleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 20..... | 14 |
| | H. Humbleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claims 23 and 30... | 15 |
| VIII. | Conclusion | 15 |
| IX. | Claims Appendix | 17 |

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 3 -

I. Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest is France Telecom, a world leader in providing communications solutions. France Telecom provides, *inter alia*, (1) voice and data transmission via a permanent phone network and the Internet, (2) television broadcasting, (3) custom Internet and data services, (4) telecommunications maintenance services and (5) mobile telephone services. France Telecom is also an Internet service provider. The web site of France Telecom is <http://www.francetelecom.com/en>.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals and/or interferences.

III. Status of Claims

Claims 1-11, 13, 25,33 and 34 are canceled.

Claims 12-24, 26-32 are rejected (see item 7 of the 4/4/05 Advisory Action and item 6 of the Office Action Summary included in the 9/24/04 Final Rejection); the text of the final rejection (page 5) states claims 12-23 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. (USP 6,288,716). Neither the final rejection nor the advisory action provides a statutory basis for the rejection of the remaining claims. Based on the arguments set forth on pages 11-14 of the final rejection, Appellant will proceed on the assumption that the remaining claims are also rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. No claims are allowed. Claims 12-24 and 26-32, i.e., all rejected claims, are being appealed.

Serial No. 09/719,370

Docket No. 324-137

Page - 4 -

IV. Status of Amendments

The December 27, 2004 amendment after final rejection, under 37 CFR 1.116, was entered, according to the April 4, 2005 Advisory Action which the PTO issued more than 6 months after the September 24, 2004 final rejection and more than 3 months after the sole response after final rejection.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The claimed subject matter relates to a method of functionally linking plural primary equipment units EP0-EP5, Fig. 1, page 12, line 14) and a browser based (page 25, lines 12-17) manager equipment unit EM (Fig. 1, page 14, line 18) that typically communicates with all the primary equipment units EP0-EP5 and (2) to a combination including these units (page 4, lines 24-28, page 15, lines 12-18). The manager equipment unit EM can also be considered to be primary equipment unit EP0.

As a preliminary step (ET0, Fig. 2, page 4, lines 29-page 5, line 2; page 17, lines 16 and 17) presentations of equipment units EP0-EP5 are stored in memories of the respective equipment EP0-EP5 and in the manager equipment unit EM. The stored presentation of each equipment unit EP0-EP5 and EM includes at least one link to a function of that equipment unit (page 4, line 31-page 5, line 2; page 20, lines 3 and 4; page 6, lines 15-17).

The manager equipment unit EM recovers or selects the stored presentation of a given primary equipment unit, e.g., EP1, (step ET3, Fig. 2; page 15, line 24-page 20, line 14; page 5, lines 6-8). The given primary equipment unit EP1 is linked to the manager equipment unit EM and the previously linked other primary equipment units, e.g., EP2-EP5, by composing a home page at the manager

Serial No. 09/719,370

Docket No. 324-137

Page - 5 -

equipment unit EM (step ET4, Fig. 2; page 20, lines 16-24, page 5, lines 9-12). The home page is composed at manager equipment unit EM by using (a) the presentation of the manager equipment unit EM, (b) the presentations of the other primary equipment units already linked EP2-EP5 and (c) the presentation of the given, primary equipment unit EP1 (step ET4, page 20 line 16, page 22, line 11, page 5, lines 9-12), and perhaps other factors. The home page is downloaded from the manager equipment unit EM into any of the primary equipment units EP0-EP5 to form a home page for all the equipment units (EM and EP0-EP5; step ET5, Fig. 2, page 22, lines 13-17, page 5, lines 3-15) so the primary equipment units EP0-EP5 can carry out the functions of the other primary equipment units EP0-EP5 and the manager equipment unit EM (page 23, line 16-page 24, line 2; page 5, lines 15-17).

Figures 3, 3A and 3B are examples of how a picture phone PRA and text phone PRB can be grouped and both can function as management and primary equipment units. As illustrated in Figure 3A, the home page presentation AB/A of equipment unit A, that functions as a primary equipment unit (page 25, line 26) and a management equipment unit (page 26, lines 29 and 30), includes pictorial presentations PRA and PRB of unit A (a telephone with picture and text capabilities (page 26, lines 28 and 29)) and unit B (a telephone with only text capability (p. 27, line 3)). In response to a user double clicking on the pictorial functions of presentations PRA and PRB of Figure 3A, the home page A/A of unit A and homepage B/A of unit B are respectively pictorially shown on the display of unit A, instead of representations PRA and PRB (page 28, lines 6-19).

Now assume that unit B (a telephone with only text capability) functions as a management equipment unit EM and a primary equipment unit, as illustrated in Figure 3B. A user who double clicks on the text "MINITEC-Internet" of Fig. 3B causes the text display of the telephone unit B to

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 6 -

display the text functions of presentation A/B (Fig. 3B) stored in the memory of unit A. A user who double clicks on the text "Galéo 2610" causes the text display of telephone unit B to display the text functions of presentation B/B (Fig. 3B) stored in the memory of unit B (page 28, line 24-page 29, line 12). Thus, each presentation of the equipment units EP0-EP5 is displayed in several different display modes and the home page in each equipment unit EP0-EP5 is displayed in at least one of the display modes used in each particular equipment unit.

The presentation of one of the equipment units EP0-EP5 in the home page of the manager equipment unit EM includes a departure anchor of a hyperlink anchor of a hyperlink toward a page of functions read in one equipment unit, e.g., EP1 (page 23, lines 16-31). The presentation includes links to functions of the one equipment unit EP1.

A dynamic address is allocated to one primary equipment unit, e.g., unit EP2, by the manager equipment unit EM when a first connection of that primary equipment unit EP2 is made to the manager equipment unit EM. The address of unit EP2 is transmitted by the manager equipment unit EM to the primary equipment units EP0-EP5 with the home page.

A home page can be composed at least partly outside the manager equipment unit EM in a secondary unit connected to the manager equipment unit via a telephone network or local network (page 14, lines 22-30; page 7, lines 14-18).

The home page can be composed by distributing equipment unit presentations into daughter pages and forming a mother page with hyperlinks to the daughter pages (page 7, lines 26-31).

Serial No. 09/719,370

Docket No. 324-137

Page - 7 -

The home pages can also be composed by the manager equipment unit EM that loads the composed home pages into primary equipment units EP0-EP5. Each of the home pages preferably includes the presentation of the respective primary equipment unit, e.g., EP3, and presentations of applications in the manager equipment unit EM dedicated to the respective primary equipment unit EP3 (page 5, lines 14-27).

Alternatively, a home page is composed only with the presentations of the other previously linked primary equipment units EP2-EP5 and the presentation of the given primary equipment unit EP1. The home page is downloaded from the manager equipment unit EM into all the primary equipment units EP0-EP5 as the home page for all the primary equipment units (page 8, lines 1-13).

The manager equipment unit EM and the primary equipment units EP0-EP5 can be interconnected by either a wireless transmission system or a carrier current transmission system. In the former case, units EP0-EP5 are terminals adapted to be connected to a telephone network. In the later case, units EP0-EP5 are electronic devices (page 8, line 31-page 9, line 4).

Alternatively, the manager equipment unit and the primary equipment units that are interconnected via the wireless transmission system are respectively a microcomputer and terminals of a carrier current transmission system. As a further alternative, the manager and primary equipment units are connected to a telephone network (page 9, lines 5-17).

The manager equipment unit and the primary equipment units can also respectively be the central processor unit of a microcomputer and electronic cards connected to a bus of the central processor unit (page 9, lines 18-21).

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 8 -

VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The anticipation rejection of claims 12-24 and 26-32 based on Humpleman et al. is incorrect.

A major sub-issue is that Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of independent claims 12 and 24 for downloading a home page from a manager equipment unit into any of the primary equipments to form a home page for all the equipment units in order that any of the primary equipment units can carry out the functions of the other equipment units. Inherency is not an issue because the final rejection dealing with this limitation (in former claims 13 and 25) does not mention inherency and does not include the rationale or evidence to indicate Humpleman et al. inherently includes the claimed features.

Humpleman et al. also does not disclose the requirements of many of the dependent claims. Inherency is not an issue concerning the dependent claims because the final rejection does not mention inherency in connection with the dependent claims and does not include the rationale or evidence to indicate Humpleman et al. inherently includes the features of the dependent claims.

VII. Argument

As indicated in Section VI of this Brief, Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of independent claims 12 and 24 for downloading a home page from a manager equipment unit into any of the primary equipments to form a home page for all the equipment units in order that any of the primary equipment units can carry out the functions of the other equipment units.

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 9 -

A. Humpleman

Humpleman et al. relates to a home network including a first device 102 (client) and a plurality of second home devices, viz: satellite receiver DSS or DDSS 104, digital video device 108, digital video cassette recorder 110 and security system 120 (col. 5, line 62-col. 6, line 9; Fig. 1). The first home device 102 is a browser-based digital TV (DTV) which provides a human interface for the home network. Digital TV 102 comprises a screen for displaying HTML pages (col. 6, lines 10-17) and functions as a client for receiving and interpreting HTML files associated with the second home devices that can also act as servers. Digital TV 102 graphically displays control and command function information (HTML files) respectively associated with the second home devices that typically do not have a human interface (col. 6, line 14; col. 6, line 61-col. 7, line 3).

Alternatively, a personal computer (PC), having a display and interface can be in the network (col. 6, lines 17-22). From the language of the paragraph beginning at col. 6, line 11 and ending at col. 6, line 23, it appears that a PC can be used in the network in lieu of the digital TV as the human interface. Users can control and command the second home devices either by way of the digital TV or the personal computer (col. 6, lines 12 and 13).

The control and command information displayed on the screen of DTV 102 defines a graphical user interface (GUI) that describes each second home device. The GUI at the digital TV enables the second home devices to be controlled from the first home device 102 by selecting icon-associated hyperlinks to start control programs displayed on the screen of the first home device (DTV) (column 7, lines 42-46).

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 10 -

A dynamic host configuration protocol DHCP server 106 (apparently referred to as server 204 in Fig. 3A or server 306 in Fig. 4A and the description thereof in col. 7, line 7, and col. 1, line 60) discovers which of devices 104, 108, 110 and 120 is powered on (col. 6, line 50). The DHCP protocol of server 106 manages connections and removal of the second home devices 104, 108, 110 and 120. Server 106 includes a configuration manager which manages an available second device list file 318 (Fig. 4B) by dynamically allocating Internet protocol (IP) addresses and logical names to the second home devices (col. 10, line 60-col. 11, lines 13 and 21-25; GENIP process 316; Fig 4B; col. 12, lines 35-40).

Digital TV 102 includes an auto-tree builder which uses the device list file in the configuration manager of server 106 to generate a device link page that is displayed on the screen of digital TV 102 (col. 13, lines 15-26). The device link page contains a home device button for each second home device, e.g., devices 104, 108, 110 and 120, identified in the device list file. The button is associated with a requested hyperlink to the top-level page of the respective second home device. The home page associated with each second device 104, 108, 110 and 120 is displayed on the screen of digital TV 102 in response to a user of the digital TV selecting the button on the screen of digital TV 102 associated with the respective second home device. The buttons 504 (Fig. 6) associated with the second house devices 104, 108, 110 and 120 are represented on the screen of digital TV 102 by ICON.GIF images (col. 14, lines 8 and 9; col. 10, lines 16-22).

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 11 -

B. Humpleman et al. does not anticipate because it does not disclose home page downloading as claims 12 and 24 require.

From the foregoing, Humpleman et al. does not disclose downloading a home page from digital TV 102 to satellite receiver 104, or DVD 108, or digital VCR 110, or security system 120 to form a home page on devices 104, 108, 110 and 120 for all of (1) receiver 104, (2) DVD 108, (3) digital VCR 110 and (4) security system 120, so each of receiver 104, DVD 108, digital VCR 110 and security system 120 can carry out the functions of the receiver 104, DVD 108, digital VCR 110 and security system 120, as well as digital TV 102. In Humpleman et al. all functions of devices 104, 108, 110 and 120 can be carried out only by digital TV 102 or the PC that is used in its stead.

The final rejection says Figs. 5A, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12A, 12B and 13 of Humpleman et al. disclose the foregoing features. Figs. 5A, 6 and 7 are representations of the screen of digital TV 102 (Fig. 1) or of the equivalent devices 202, 302, 312 and 752 of Figs. 3A, 4A and 4B. Figs. 8, 10, 11, 12A, 12B and 13 are apparently representations of the screen of session manager 750 (see col. 15, line 64-col. 16, line 6; col. 17, line 53-67 and col. 18, lines 12-27). Hence, none of the foregoing figures and/or the descriptions thereof disclose the foregoing downloading requirements of claims 12 and 24 that enable the primary equipment units to carry out the functions of the other primary equipment units and the manager equipment unit.

The final rejection also refers to col. 5, lines 18-23, col. 13, lines 52-60 and col. 14, lines 27-36 of Humpleman et al. in connection with the "downloading" limitations of claims 12 and 24. Col. 5, lines 18-23 merely indicates a client device (i.e., digital TV 102 in the embodiment of Fig. 1) includes graphical display hardware for down communication and a mouse for up or

Serial No. 09/719,370

Docket No. 324-137

Page - 12 -

return communication. Nothing is said about downloading a home page from the client devices to devices that are equivalent to the claimed primary equipment units (i.e., devices 104, 108, 110 and 120 of Humpleman et al.) to form a home page for all the other equipment units so the primary units can carry out the functions of each other and the client device. Col. 13, lines 52-60 merely describes the display on digital TV 102 (Fig. 1) or its equivalents, i.e., digital TV 202 (Fig. 3), home device 302 (Fig. 4A) and home device 312 (Fig. 4B). Col. 14, lines 27-36 merely describes, in broad terms, certain aspects of session manager 750 (Fig. 9) and does not mention anything about downloading, no less the specific downloading aspects of claims 12 and 25.

Based on the foregoing, Humpleman et al. does not anticipate independent claims 12 and 24. Consequently, dependent claims 14-23 and 26-32, that are rejected as anticipated by Humpleman et al., are allowable.

C. Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claims 14 and 26.

Claims 14 and 26 require each home page in each equipment unit to be displayed in at least one of the several display modes used in each equipment unit. In Humpleman et al., only digital TV 102, or the various equivalents thereof, display home pages of other units. Humpleman et al. has no disclosure of device 104 displaying home pages of devices 108, 110 or 120 (or the equivalent devices of the other figures). Consequently, Humpleman et al. does not disclose displaying each home page in each equipment unit in at least one of several display modes used in each equipment unit.

The references to col. 13, lines 23-67, col. 14, lines 1-12, and Figs. 6, 7, 8 and 10 for the features of claims 14 and 16 are erroneous. Col. 13, lines 23-67 and col. 14, lines 1-12 discuss the display on the browser, i.e., digital TV 102, per col. 6, line 66. Figs 6 and 7 are displays of

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 13 -

digital TV 102, while Figs. 8 and 10 are displays of session manager 750, Fig. 9. There is nothing in the relied on portions of Humpleman et al. to indicate that receiver 104, DVD 108, digital VCR 110 and security system 120 or for that matter server 106 (or the equivalent devices in the other figures) function as browsers. Consequently, Humpleman et al. does not disclose the features of claims 14 and 26.

D. Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 17

Claim 17 requires a home page to be composed at least partly outside the manager equipment unit in a secondary means connected to the manager unit. The final rejection relies on Fig. 14 and the description thereof in col. 21, lines 1-63 of Humpleman et al. for this feature. The relied on portion of Humpleman indicates serial bus 114 can be connected to the Internet 1102 and remote control of the home network can be achieved through the use of macros. Humpleman et al. has no disclosure in Fig. 14 or col. 21, lines 1-63 of using the macros or the Internet to compose a home page that links a given primary equipment unit (e.g., DVD 108 of Humpleman et al.) to a manager equipment unit (i.e., digital TV 102 of Humpleman et al.). Consequently, claim 17 is improperly rejected.

E. Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 18

Claim 18 requires the home page at the manager equipment unit (per claim 12) to be composed by distributing equipment unit presentations into daughter pages and forming a mother page with hyperlinks to the daughter pages. The final rejection says Humpleman et al. discloses this feature at col. 13, line 15-col. 14, line 25. While col. 13, line 34 mentions hyperlinks, there is nothing in the relied on portion of Humpleman et al. about the remaining limitations of claim

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 14 -

18. Because the final rejection provides no explanation of why the remaining limitations of claim 18 are necessarily in Humpleman et al., the rejection of claim 18 is wrong.

F. Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 19

The final rejection incorrectly relies on col. 11, lines 22-29 of Humpleman et al. to disclose the claim 19 requirements of loading the home pages composed by the manager equipment unit into primary equipment units. Each of the thus loaded home pages (due to "said home pages" in claim 19) includes the presentation of the respective (i.e., particular) primary equipment unit and presentations of the manager equipment unit dedicated to the respective primary equipment unit.

The relied on portion of Humpleman et al. is concerned with DHCP server 106. There is no mention in col. 11, lines 22-59 of digital TV 102 (or the equivalent structure of the other figures) that must be interpreted as the manager equipment unit. Hence, col. 11, lines 22-59 has no disclosure of the operations performed by the manager equipment unit of claim 19. Also, this portion of Humpleman et al. does not disclose the limitations of claim 19 relating to the home page presentations.

G. Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claim 20.

Humpleman et al. does not include the claim 20 requirement to download the home page from the manager equipment unit into all the primary equipment units as the home page for all the primary equipment units. This limitation would require digital TV 102 of Humpleman et al. or its equivalent to download a home page into receiver 104, DVD 108, digital VCR 110, security system 120 and perhaps server 106. The relied on portions of Humpleman et al. (col. 6,

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 15 -

line 61-col. 7, line 25; col. 11, lines 22-59; col. 10, lines 51-58 and col. 19, lines 3-9) have nothing to do with such downloading. Col. 6, line 61-col. 7, line 25 discusses sending information from devices 104, 106, 108, 110 and 120 to digital TV 102, that must be considered as the manager equipment unit of claim 20. Col. 11, lines 22-50, in discussion the operation of server 106, never indicates there is downloading of a home page from digital TV 102 to server 106. Col. 10, lines 51-58, merely discusses HTML files associated with the home devices. Col. 19, lines 3-9 merely indicates a digital TV or a PC can function as a server as well as a client, i.e., the claimed manager equipment unit. As a result, Humpleman et al. does not anticipate claim 20.

H. Humpleman et al. does not disclose the requirements of claims 23 and 30.

Humpleman et al. does not disclose the cards of claims 23 and 30. The final rejection relies on the Abstract, col. 1, lines 21-36 and 45-50; col. 6, lines 11-23 and Fig. 1 of Humpleman et al. to disclose the features of claims 23 and 30. However, there is no mention of cards in the relied on portions of Humpleman et al. or allegation of inherency in the final rejection. As a result, Humpleman et al. does not anticipate claims 23 and 30.

VIII. Conclusion

Independent claims 12 and 24 are not anticipated by Humpleman et al. because Humpleman et al. does not disclose downloading from a manager equipment unit into any plural primary equipment units to form a home page for all the equipment units. In the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 1 of Humpleman et al. digital TV 102 must be considered the manager equipment unit and units 104, 108, 110 and 120 must be considered the primary equipment units. Humpleman et al. only discloses loading home pages from units 104, 108, 110 and 120 to unit

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 16 -

102. Humpleman et al. has no disclosure of downloading a home page from unit 102 to units 104, 108, 11 and 120, or to server 106.

Claims 12 and 25 also differ from Humpleman et al. by requiring the downloading to be such that the primary equipment units can carry out the functions of the other primary equipment units and the manager equipment unit. Humpleman et al. has no disclosure that units 104, 108, 110 and 120 can carry out the functions of the other similar units or the functions of digital TV 102.

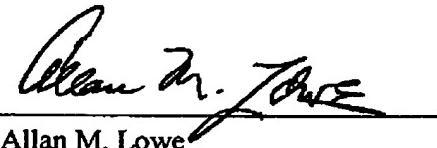
Dependent claims 14-23 and 26-32 are allowable with claims 12 and 24, upon which they depend. In addition, claims 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 26 and 30 include features not disclosed by Humpleman et al., for the reasons set forth in Section VII of this Brief. Consequently, claims 14, 17-20, 23, 26 and 30 are improperly rejected as being anticipated by Humpleman et al., independently of claims 12 and 24.

Reversal of the rejection is in order.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP

By:



Allan M. Lowe
Reg. No. 19,641

Customer No. 22429
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-684-1111 Telephone
703-518-5499 Telecopier
AML:tal

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 17 -

VIII. Claims Appendix

12. A method of functionally linking plural primary equipment units and a manager equipment unit likely to communicate with all the primary equipment units, comprising:

a preliminary step of storing presentations of equipment units in memory in the respective units or in the manager equipment unit, the presentation of each equipment unit including at least one link to a function of the equipment unit;

recovering or selecting in said manager equipment unit the presentation of a given primary equipment unit;

linking said given primary equipment unit to said manager equipment unit and said already-linked other primary equipment units by composing a home page at said manager equipment unit, the home page being composed by using at least (a) the presentation of said manager equipment unit, (b) the presentations of the other primary equipment units already linked, and (c) the presentation of said given primary equipment unit; and

downloading the home page from said manager equipment unit into any of said primary equipment units to form a home page for all the equipment units in order that said primary equipment units can carry out the functions of the other primary equipment units and the manager equipment unit.

14. A method according to claim 12, further including displaying each presentation in several display modes, and displaying said home page in each equipment unit in at least one of the display modes used in said each equipment unit.

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 18 -

15. A method according to claim 12, wherein the presentation of one of said equipment units in said home page includes a departure anchor of a hyperlink toward a page of functions read in said one equipment unit and including links to functions of said one equipment unit.

16. A method according to claim 12, including, at the time of a first connection of one of said primary equipment units to said manager equipment units to said manager equipment unit, dynamic address allocation to said one primary equipment unit by said manager equipment unit and transmission of the address by said manager equipment unit to said primary equipment units with said home page.

17. A method according to claim 12, wherein said step of composing a home page is performed at least partly outside said manager equipment unit in secondary means connected to said manager equipment unit via a telephone network or local network.

18. A method according to claim 12, wherein said step of composing a home page comprises distributing equipment unit presentations into daughter pages and forming a mother page with hyperlinks to the daughter pages.

19. A method according to claim 12, wherein said step of composing includes composing home pages by the manager equipment unit, loading said composed home pages into primary equipment units, each of said home pages including the presentation of the respective primary equipment unit and presentations of applications in said manager equipment unit dedicated to the respective primary equipment unit.

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 19 -

20. A method according to claim 12, wherein said step of composing includes composing a home page only with the presentations of said other primary equipment units already linked and the presentation of said given primary equipment unit, and downloading the homepage from said manager equipment unit into all said primary equipment units as the home page for all said primary equipment units.

21. A method according to claim 12, wherein said manager equipment unit and said primary equipment units are interconnected via one of the following wireless transmission system and a carrier current transmission system, and are respectively a terminal adapted to be connected to a telephone network and electronic devices.

22. A method according to claim 12, wherein said manager equipment unit and said primary equipment units are interconnected via one of a wireless transmission system and a carrier current transmission system, and are respectively a microcomputer and terminals, the terminals being connected to a telephone network.

23. A method according to claim 12, wherein said manager equipment unit and said primary equipment units are the central processor unit of a microcomputer and electronic cards connected to a bus of said central processor unit.

24. In combination:

plural primary equipment units arranged to be functionally linked and a manager equipment unit for communicating with all the primary equipment units, the primary equipment units or the manager equipment unit having a memory for storing presentations of the equipment units, the

Serial No. 09/719,370

Docket No. 324-137

Page - 20 -

presentation of each equipment unit including at least one link to a function of the equipment unit, said manager equipment unit being arranged for recovering or selecting the presentation of a given primary equipment unit, said manager equipment unit being arranged for (a) linking said given primary equipment unit to said manager equipment unit and said already-linked other primary equipment units by composing a home page at said manager equipment unit, and (b) composing the home page by using at least (a) the presentation of said manager equipment unit, (b) the presentations of the other primary equipment units already linked, and (c) the presentation of said given primary equipment unit composing the home page at said manager equipment unit, the manager equipment and the primary units being arranged for causing downloading of the home page from said manager equipment unit into any of said primary equipment units to form a home page for all the equipment units in order that any of said primary equipment units can carry out the functions of the other equipment units.

26. The combination of claim 24, wherein each of the equipment units includes a display for (a) displaying each presentation in several display modes, and (b) displaying said home page in each equipment unit in at least one of the display modes used in said each equipment unit.

27. The combination of claim 24, wherein each of the equipment units is arranged for causing the presentation of one of said equipment units in said home page to include a departure anchor of a hyperlink toward a page of functions read in said one equipment unit and including links to functions of said one equipment unit.

28. The combination of claim 24, wherein said manager equipment unit and said primary equipment units are arranged to be interconnected via a wireless transmission system or a carrier

Serial No. 09/719,370
Docket No. 324-137
Page - 21 -

current transmission system, and are respectively a terminal adapted to be connected to a telephone network and electronic devices.

29. The combination of claim 24, wherein said manager equipment unit and said primary equipment units are arranged to be respectively interconnected via a wireless transmission system or a carrier current transmission system, and are respectively a microcomputer and terminals, the terminals being connected to a telephone network.

30. The combination of claim 24, wherein said manager equipment unit and said primary equipment units are respectively the central processor unit of a microcomputer and electronic cards connected to a bus of said central processor unit.

31. A method according to claim 12, wherein the manager equipment unit includes a browser that performs the recovering or selecting step.

32. The combination of claim 24, wherein the manager equipment unit includes a browser for recovering or selecting the presentation of the given primary equipment unit.